MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*) : So is it considered too low in comparison with the traffic on other bridges ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : It all depends upon the probable cost of that bridge.

MR. T. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*) : May I know whether an estimate was made of the cost ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : No.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam II*) : May I know the basis on which statistics are collected as to the volume of traffic on a particular road ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : A man is put there and he counts the number of carts.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam II*) : May I know whether a man is put on every road for this purpose ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : No. It is only in the case of a request for bridges.

Over-time work in Government Press.

119. * **MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN** (*Mavelikara*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the maximum number of hours at which the proof-readers examiners and other employees are made to work a day during the years 1109, 1110 and 1111 (6-3-1111) :

(*b*) whether any special allowance is now paid for over-time work and how much ;

(*c*) whether such allowance depends upon the amount of extra work done by the employees ;

(*d*) whether there are different scales of allowances for over-time work done during day and during night ;

(*e*) if not, why not ;

(*f*) what is the practice in vogue in the sister institutions in Mysore and Madras ;

(*g*) whether the employees that work over-time during night are let off the following day, or, if not, how the strain of over-time work is compensated ; and

(*h*) how was over-time work paid before 1-7-1108 ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) The maximum number of hours the employees concerned had to work continuously at a stretch on a day, which might be a day or two in the whole year, during the years 1109, 1110 and 1111, is 14½, 20 1/2 and 10 1/2, respectively.

(*b*) to (*e*) No special over-time allowance is paid, but monthly fixed allowances varying according to the grade and pay of the employee

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[Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai.]

and dependent on the number of days present, are paid to the proof-readers and examiners.

The fixed allowances are :—

1st grade examiner	Rs. 5 per mensem.
2nd ,,	Rs. 4 ,,
3rd ,,	Rs. 3 ,,
Proof-readers 1st grade	Rs. 2 ,,
Do. 2nd grade	Rs. 1 1/2 ,,
Do. 3rd grade	Rs. 1 1/2 ,,

(*f*) In Mysore and Madras over-time work is remunerated by a special over-time allowance with distinct rates for night and day attendance.

(*g*) No ; but when an employee works more than 12 hours a day at a stretch, he will be granted permission to attend late the succeeding day to the extent that is required.

(*h*) Prior to 1-7-1108 over-time allowance was paid at the rate of a day's wages for every seven hours of over-time worked, but limited to 50 per cent. of the pay of the employee.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : May I know whether this extra work is distributed amongst all the employees equally ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I cannot say that it is distributed in mathematically equal proportions. The actual distribution will depend upon circumstances.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : May I know the number of hours of over-time work that has to be done by an employee on an average per day ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It has not been calcultated. Sir, I claim notice.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : May I know why the system of paying remuneration on the quantity of extra work has been changed and a fixed allowance is now given instead ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): As a measure of retrenchment.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Is it because by this adjustment Government are making a huge profit ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : It is not a huge profit; but I think there is some little profit.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : What is the extent of it ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I claim notice; it has not been calculated.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : May I know whether it is the question of cost alone that induced Governmont to adopt this inequitable course ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not think that the employees consider it inequitable. They have taken it in good part.

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MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Is there anything to show that they have taken it in good part and that they have no complaint against this system?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not think that they have seriously complained about it.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Have there been memorials to the Government praying that the present system is working a great hardship to the memorialists and that they would like to have the old system, and that the system now obtaining in Madras or Mysore may be introduced here?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I cannot say that off-hand. I claim notice.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know, Sir, whether this 20 1/2 hours' maximum work done by an employee in the Government Press at a stretch is conducive to the health of the employee?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It is only very rarely that this is being done. As is stated in the answer itself, the number of days when such work has to be done is only one or two in a year.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quion I*): May I know, Sir, what will be the average number of maximum hours if the work is spread over the entire year?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): To a question put by Mr. Asan, I have given the answer.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): May I know the circumstances that necessitated these people working for 14 1/2 and 20 1/2 hours a day?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The urgency of the work. There may be a lot of work which will have to be got done in a very short time. It is only very rarely that they are required to do such overtime work.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): I wish to know the kind of matter that necessitates this kind of continuous work for 14 and 20 hours a day?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Very urgent work had to be done. For instance, the Report of the Agricultural Debt Redemption Committee had to be printed in a few days. I do not know whether any over-time work was done in printing this Report. But it may be that in cases like that over-time work will have to be done.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rral*): Is it not possible to avoid such extortion of work?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It may not be always possible. If the Agricultural Debt Redemption Committees Report had been printed in the usual course, it would not have been possible to discuss it in this session of the Assembly. It will not be possible to avoid over-time work in such exceptional cases.

PRESIDENT: The remaining questions will stand over.

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